

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 3 – 5, 7 – 11 and 13 are now in the case.

Independent Claim 1 has now been amended to incorporate the subject matter of Claim 2 which the Examiner has previously indicated would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Likewise, independent Claim 5 has now been amended to incorporate the subject matter of Claim 6 which the Examiner has previously indicated would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Further, independent Claim 11 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of Claim 12 which the Examiner has previously indicated would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Dependent Claim 3 is now dependent upon an allowable base claim and includes all the limitations of Claim 1 from which it depends. Likewise, dependent Claim 4 includes the allowable limitations of Claim 3, and further includes all the limitations of Claim 1.

Dependent Claim 7 is now dependent upon an allowable base claim and includes all the limitations of Claim 5 from which it depends. Likewise, dependent Claim 8 includes the allowable limitations of Claim 7, and further includes all the limitations of Claim 5. Dependent Claim 9 includes the allowable limitations of Claim 8, and further includes all the limitations of Claim 5. Dependent Claim 10 includes the allowable limitations of Claim 9, and further includes all the limitations of Claim 5.

Dependent Claim 13 is now dependent upon an allowable base claim and includes all the limitations of Claim 11 from which it depends.

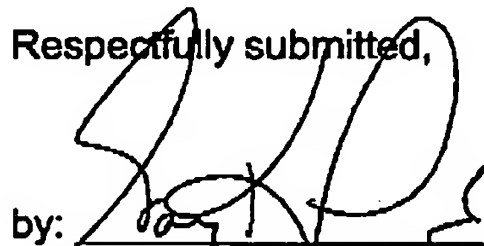
For these reasons, it is felt that all claims are now in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Based on the remarks above it is felt that the remaining claims are now in condition for allowance.

In the event the Examiner wishes to discuss any aspect of this response, please contact the undersigned at the telephone number identified below.

Respectfully submitted,



by:

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